## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 29, 2005 LB 217

amendment. Like me, Senator Beutler is a pragmatist. He is a politician. We all are politicians, some don't want to acknowledge it, and some are more astute than others. Senator Beutler could get Omaha to go along, there probably would be, in his way of thinking--and I'm speculating about his way of thinking--there would probably be more support for the adoption of his amendment. Senator Beutler is concerned about and interested in Lincoln. So put Lincoln in it. I'm concerned about what Omaha is doing. If there is a project that would cost \$25 million that Omaha is interested in, Omaha can come up with that. They don't have to put the camel on this little bill whose sole purpose was to bring the nose of the camel into the tent. You are now creating a situation where you had a little bitty skinny horse out there, but you also had little skinny jockeys, so everything was all right. Now you're going to take some swollen, overstuffed jockeys and put them on...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...these little skinny horses. And the skinny little horses may have their backs broken. So I'm going to oppose putting Omaha in this. I'm crafting an amendment as I stated. If my amendment is adopted, I will leave the citizens of Lincoln to the good graces of those who are here to represent their interests. I have not talked to the people in Lincoln. I don't talk to them about these issues. I will listen if they contact me. But I live in Omaha and have a very direct interest in the kind of projects and proposals that affect that city. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. On with discussion, Senator Redfield, Senator Beutler, and Langemeier. Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. First of all, I want to thank Senator Flood for the previous amendment. I do think it was a good idea and it was sensitive to the demands upon the public. It is very, very difficult for people to gather signatures. It is an expensive proposition if they have to hire people to help them, so I appreciate that amendment very much. Having said that, I still